

Regular VAL Charter Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 23, 2022
VAL Bayou Blue Site (200 Melanie Lane, Gray, LA)

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

1) Opening of Meeting

a. Roll Call

Members present:

Michael Rieth, Shontell Terrebonne, Monique Pitre, Shelba Harlan, Cheryl Thomas

Members absent:

Donald Andras, Curtis Bouvier, Bernita Deville, Travis Toups (joined meeting at 6:43 pm)

Others present:

Edmond Adams, Holly Naquin

b. Pledge of Allegiance by Michael Rieth

c. Invocation by Michael Rieth

d. Public Participation Policy by Michael Rieth

e. Minutes of VAL Charter Board meeting held July 19, 2022 approved on motion by Shelba Harlan and seconded by Cheryl Thomas. Motion carried.

2) School Director's Report

a. Old Business

Mr. Adams informed board members as a result of his meeting with Lafourche Parish School System Superintendent Jared Martin, VAL will continue to pay the \$1000 stipend for each extra-curricular activity in which their students participate, excluding their participation in classes at the Career Magnet Center.

b. New Business

i. Student Enrollment

Mr. Adams reported VAL's current enrollment stands at 477.

ii. Staff Changes

Mr. Adams announced there were no staff changes to report at the current time.

iii. Report on Sites

According to information obtained from site managers, along with his regular site visits, Mr. Adams announced VAL had a positive start to the school year. He further announced all staff is in place with no further hires expected.

iv. Finances/Budget

Mr. Adams announced there were no updates other than what was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. He noted he was informed that VAL is eligible for ESSER funds, and will be attending a meeting with Lafourche Parish School Board to hopefully determine the amount and how the funds can best be utilized.

v. School Curriculum Changes

Mr. Adams announced VAL has no expected curriculum changes; however, he had received a memo from the State Superintendent regarding their intentions to incorporate a phonics-based learning component for the early readers, but feels VAL is ahead of the game with this.

vi. School Vision/Five Year Plan

Mr. Adams announced he had nothing to report, but would like to set up a time to meet with the Board to have an open discussion on where they see VAL in five years.

vii. Community Relations

Mr. Adams announced he had recently attended the Lafourche Education Foundation Board meeting, and VAL will be promoted at an upcoming event in September. Although VAL is ineligible to participate in their Teacher of the Year Program, Mr. Adams stated he feels VAL's teachers work hard, and should at least be recognized.

Mr. Adams announced he had received ownership/control of VAL's website, and the process of revamping it will begin soon making it a community-friendly website.

Mr. Rieth announced VAL's Robotics Team had qualified as a recipient of funding raised at the Creole Classic Tournament, which will occur on September 17th at the Thibodaux Civic Center.

3) School Board Business

a. Old Business

In regards to discussions at previous meetings concerning the possibility of investing VAL's funds, Mr. Adams was called upon for a report. In his report, Mr. Adams stated he is working on increasing the amount of funds on hand to be used for operational purposes prior to tying up VAL's money in investments. He further noted he plans to conduct meetings with VAL's accountant and site managers to make a determination on how much money is needed to best manage the school and achieve goals.

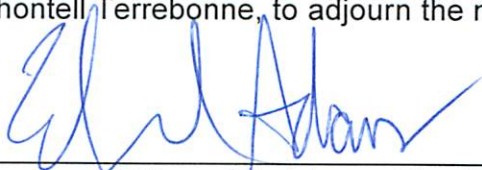
b. New Business

i. Regarding the revamping of VAL's website, Mr. Adams informed board members a team consisting of four members will be working to clean up VAL's website, and their first accomplishment was the entire team's access to the website's link where they will be able to respond to questions from community members about VAL. Contact information for board members on the website was also discussed, and the possibility of including their headshots will be looked into.

ii. Following discussion, September 21, 2022 was selected as the date of the Board's next meeting, and VAL South was selected as the location, with times remaining the same.

4) Adjourn

There being no further business, Mr. Rieth entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion of Shelba Harlan, seconded by Shontell Terrebonne, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm. Motion carried.



Edmond J. Adams, Director